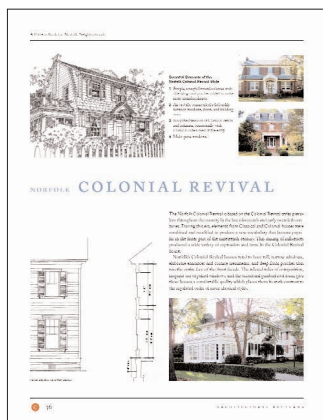
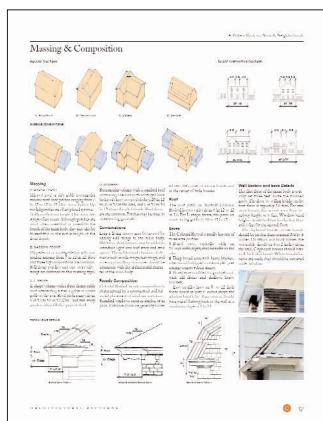


# Building a Norfolk House



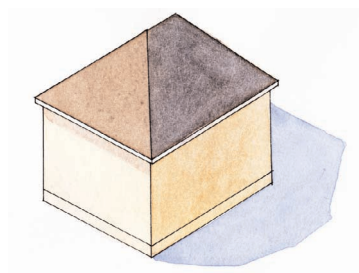
The History & Character Page of the Norfolk Colonial Revival Architectural Style



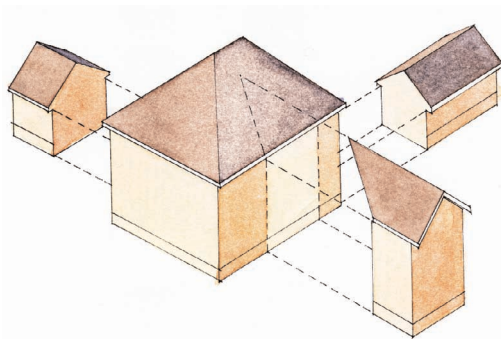
The Massing & Composition Page of the Norfolk Colonial Revival Architectural Style



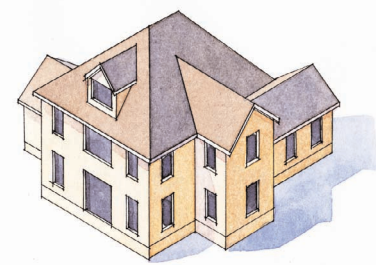
Historic photos of Norfolk Colonial Revival houses



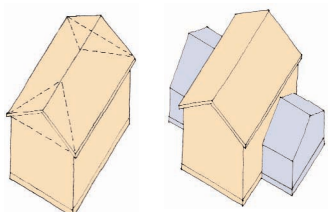
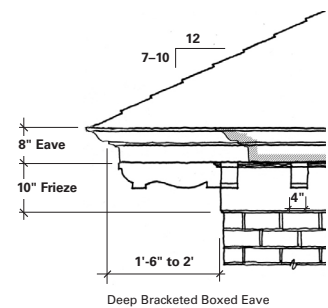
Most traditional houses are distinguished by a **Main Body** that is always the most important form. Additional space is treated as secondary additions to this Main Body. The first step in designing a house is to determine the Main Body Massing Type. This will guide the development of your house plan or the modifications to your existing house.



In general, additions are treated as **Wings**. Side wings can be either one, or one-and-one-half stories, set back from the front facade of the Main Body. Two-story additions can be added to two-story Main Bodies, but should be set back from the front facade and limited in width to a maximum of one-third the width of the Main Body. Side wings and rear wings can be added in many combinations.



Once the massing and the floor-to-floor heights are determined, various **Door and Window Compositions** can be explored. Most styles have very definite patterns that were used to produce balanced or picturesque compositions that produce a harmonious and pleasing image. Window proportions, location and spacing were all important and well understood by early house builders.



Massing Diagrams for Additions

